

The Baltimore Oriole in Massachusetts in November.—On Nov. 15, 1885, I shot a male Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*), in perfect plumage and condition, while feeding upon frozen apples in an orchard. I send this account of the late appearance of this bird, which usually leaves us in September, thinking that it may be worthy of record in 'The Auk.'—CHAS. E. INGALLS, *East Templeton, Mass.*

Icterus galbula in Connecticut in November.—A young male was shot in my dooryard Nov. 15, 1885. It was in good condition and showed no signs of ever having been caged. It was seen about my grounds several days previous to the above date.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

The Vernacular Name of Plectrophenax hyperboreus.—The specific name of this species was chosen in consequence of the supposition, recently proven to be erroneous, that "the summer home . . . is probably the unknown region to the north of the Arctic mainland, since, at the extreme northern point of Alaska [Point Barrow] only the true *P. nivalis* breeds." The American Ornithologists' Union Committee on Classification and Nomenclature decided upon 'Polar Snowflake' as a more suitable vernacular name for the species than that of McKay's Snow Bunting, originally bestowed upon it; but since we now have positive evidence (the nature of which I am not at present at liberty to explain) that its breeding habitat is not polar, and is in fact considerably south of the Arctic Ocean, I would suggest that the species be called McKay's Snowflake, "in memory of Mr. Charles L. McKay, who sacrificed his life in the prosecution of natural history investigations in Alaska, and in whose collections the new species was first noticed." (Cf. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. VII, pp. 68-70.)—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Ipswich Sparrow in Texas.—I have in my collection an adult male *Ammodramus princeps* taken at Dallas, Texas, Dec. 10, 1884. I obtained it from Mr. Fred. T. Jencks of Providence, who writes me in regard to it as follows: "The Ipswich Sparrow was purchased from the collector, Mr. Clothie Pierce, for a Western Grass Finch, and it was so labelled until the day I picked out your series of Sparrows, when I detected its true identity." This largely extends the habitat of this comparatively new species, heretofore only recognized on the sand hills of the Atlantic Coast.—GEO. B. SENNETT, *American Museum of Natural History, New York.*

Occurrence of the Ipswich Sparrow (*Ammodramus princeps*) in Nova Scotia.—A short time ago I forwarded to Mr. Montague Chamberlain of St. John, N. B., a Sparrow for identification, and he has kindly returned it with the intimation that it is an example of the Ipswich Sparrow (*Ammodramus princeps*), a bird which has never before been included in our fauna. I shot the specimen while after Ducks on the Coast at Lawrence-town, near Halifax, about the end of March, 1878, as it was feeding on